

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10

ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01

PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 NRC-05 /142 W

-----127390 311846Z /46

R 310932Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 746

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD: WESTERN GROUP MEETING, AUGUST 29, 1977

1. SUMMARY: DURING AUGUST 29 MEETING OF CCD WESTERN GROUP, USREP BRIEFED ALLIES ON END OF ROUNDS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW) AND RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (RW) TALKS WITH SOVIETS. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING AUGUST 29 MEETING OF CCD WESTERN GROUP (CANADA, FRG, ITALY, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, UK, US), USREP (FISHER) STATED THAT THE ROUND OF US-SOVIET CW TALKS HAD ENDED ON AUGUST 26, WITH A NEW ROUND PLANNED FOR THE END OF

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SEPTEMBER AND A FURTHER ROUND LIKELY IN MID-NOVEMBER. THE CW COMMUNIQUE, USREP INDICATED, WOULD BE RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION ON SEPTEMBER 1.

3. USREP ALSO REPORTED THAT THE ROUND OF US-SOVIET TALKS ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (RW) HAD CONCLUDED ON AUGUST 29, WITH THE TWO PARTIES FAIRLY CLOSE TO OVERALL

AGREEMENT. THE GENERAL OUTLINE OF AN RW BAN WOULD RESEMBLE THE ORIGINAL SOVIET APPROACH, ENTAILING A PROHIBITION ON PRODUCTION, DEVELOPMENT, ACQUISITION, STOCKPILING, AND USE.

4. USREP STATED THAT HE WOULD EXPECT A JOINT US-SOVIET INITIATIVE ON RW, BUT COULD NOT PREDICT THE TIMING. THE JOINT INITIATIVE WOULD BE FRAMED IN TERMS OF KEY ELEMENTS, HE SAID, BUT THE KEY ELEMENTS WOULD PROBABLY BE VERY EXTENSIVE AND MAY CLOSELY RESEMBLY TREATY LANGUAGE. IN ANY CASE, US REP INDICATED, THE U.S. SIDE HAS INFORMED THE SOVIETS THAT FOR EVENTUAL CCD NEGOTIATIONS ON RW IT INTENDS TO ADOPT A RELATIVELY FLEXIBLE POSITION, NOT STONE-WALLING ON EXACT WORDING.

5. CONCLUDING, USREP STATED THAT ALTHOUGH AN RW BAN WOULD NOT BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ARMS CONTROL MEASURE IN HISTORY, IT WOULD CLOSE A CONCEPTUAL POSSIBILITY AND IS WELL WORTHWHILE PURSUING.

6. AT REQUEST OF OTHER REPS, US REP AGREED TO CONVENE WESTERN GROUP DURING NEXT ROUND OF CW BILATERAL TALKS, EITHER IMMEDIATELY BEFORE OR JUST AFTER FIRST MEETING. AT THAT TIME ITALIAN REP (DIBERNARDO) WILL BE IN THE CHAIR. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, MDW, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA07445
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770315-0323
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977085/aaaaadjc.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1564747
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CCD: WESTERN GROUP MEETING, AUGUST 29, 1977
TAGS: PARM, UR, US, CCD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9c128b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009